

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRIDGE 00484 272345Z

61

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 MMS-01

/021 W

----- 015128

P R 272133Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8619

USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRIDGETOWN 0484

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC/AFSP/AMGT/APER/BB

SUBJ: USIS OPERATIONS IN BRIDGETOWN

REFS: (A) BURKE-BRITTON LETTER OF MARCH 3

(B) NIEBURG-BURKE MEMO OF FEBRUARY 24

(C) STATE 055005

USIA: FOR DIRECTOR FROM AMBASSADOR

ARA/CAR I FOR BURKE FROM AMBASSADOR

1. BECAUSE OF MY EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE WITH USIA OPERATIONS WHILE CARRYING OUT VOLUNTEER SPEAKER ASSIGNMENTS IN EUROPE, ASIA AND AFRICA, I HAVE SPECIAL INTEREST IN THIS FACET OF EMBASSY ACTIVITIES AND FEEL STRONGLY THAT THERE IS NEED FOR STRENGTHENING USIA OPERATIONS AT THIS EMBASSY. OVER LAST TWO DAYS, I HAVE HELD CONVERSATIONS WITH PORT-OF-SPAIN-BASED PAO DONALD W. MULLIGAN HERE IN BRIDGETOWN AND HAVE REVIEWED WITH HIM REFS. (A) AND (B), AS WELL AS AMBASSADOR MILLER'S RECENT LETTER TO BURKE, WHICH I HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY SEEN. CONVERSATIONS AND REVIEW HAVE ENABLED ME TO SHARPEN FOCUS ON POSSIBLE APPROACHES AND TO REACH CONCLUSIONS REGARDING MEANS BEST DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE DESIRED END OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BRIDGE 00484 272345Z

STRENGTHENING USIS OPERATIONS. I SINCERELY APPRECIATE CONCERN ON

PART OF USIA WHICH MOTIVATED PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH USIS AMERICAN PRESENCE IN BRIDGETOWN BY SHIFTING HALF-TIME POSITION FROM PORT OF SPAIN. NEVERTHELESS, I HAVE SERIOUS DOUBTS AS TO PRACTICABILITY OF PROPOSAL AS FORMULATED. THERE IS, IT SEEMS TO ME, VERY REAL DANGER THAT OFFICER WORKING HALF-TIME ON USIS DUTIES AND HALF-TIME AT STATE JOB WOULD BE ABLE TO DO NEITHER WELL AND WOULD FEEL FRUSTRATED, ALSO THAT SUCH A SET-UP WOULD NOT BE IN CAREER INTEREST OF OFFICER SO ASSIGNED.

2. I FEEL THAT SOLUTION TO PROBLEM LIES RATHER IN DIRECTION OF HAVING MATURE, EXPERIENCED USIS LOCAL EMPLOYEE AND MORE FREQUENT VISITS TO BRIDGETOWN BY PORT OF SPAIN-BASED PAO, AS WELL AS INCREASED SUPERVISION BY THE LATTER OF THE FORMER'S ACTIVITIES. I SEE POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION BY ROVING CAO FROM KINGSTOWN ALSO AS PART OF THIS PICTURE. IN ADDITION, I HAVE BEEN USING AND WILL CONTINUE TO USE, AS TIME PERMITS, SERVICES OF PEACE CORPS DIRECTOR WILLIAM E. JONES, WHO IS A CAREER USIS OFFICER, FOR AGENCY PURPOSES.

3. IN CONVERSATION WITH MULLIGAN, QUESTION OF COUNTRY PLAN PROPOSAL WAS ALSO RAISED. SINCE THIS EMBASSY WAS NOT ASKED TO APPROVE OR CONCUR, CPP PRESUMABLY COVERS ONLY TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. IN ANY CASE, EMBASSY APPEARS NOT TO HAVE BEEN AFFORDED OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE ANY INPUT, THOUGH DCM DID SUGGEST IN LETTER TO PAO THAT NUMBER OF CU GRANTS MIGHT PROFITABLY BE INCREASED. PAO WAS, AT THAT TIME, UNCERTAIN OF HIS ROLE AND OF BRIDGETOWN'S (SEE PORT OF SPAIN 0692). IT SEEMS CLEAR TO ME THAT, SINCE BRIDGETOWN IS A SUB-POST OF USIS POST IN PORT OF SPAIN, CPP SHOULD HAVE INCLUDED PLANS, WORKED OUT IN CONSULTATION WITH THIS EMBASSY, FOR USIS/CU OPERATIONS IN THE TWO INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES OF BARBADOS AND GRENADA AND IN FIVE WEST INDIES ASSOCIATED STATES.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT USIA RECONSIDER PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH USIS AMERICAN PRESENCE ON HALF-TIME BASIS AND AUTHORIZE EMBASSY TO HIRE LOCAL EMPLOYEE TO REPLACE C.O. THOMAS, WHOSE LAST DAY OF DUTY IS TODAY (MARCH 27). ALSO THAT PAO IN PORT OF SPAIN BE DIRECTED TO PAY MORE FREQUENT VISITS TO BRIDGETOWN AND TO PREPARE, IN CONSULTATION WITH THIS EMBASSY, SUPPLEMENTARY COUNTRY PLAN PROPOSAL COVERING USIS/CU ACTIVITIES IN AREA SERVED BY THIS EMBASSY AND THAT ANY BUDGETARY PLANS HEREAFTER REFLECT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BRIDGE 00484 272345Z

SPECIFIC ALLOCATION FOR BRIDGETOWN (PRESENT ALLOCATION APPARENTLY UNDETERMINED).

5. I WILL BE WRITING DIRECTLY TO DIRECTOR KEOGH IN VERY NEAR FUTURE.
BRITTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BRIDGE00484
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750108-0210
From: BRIDGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750311/aaaaajjl.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BURKE-BRITTON
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <03 SEP 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: USIS OPERATIONS IN BRIDGETOWN
TAGS: OEXC, AFSP, AMGT, APER, BB
To: STATE USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006